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Fünf Fragen an die EU-Kommission

Novelle der Europäischen Richtlinie für Energieeffiziente Gebäude (EPDB 2010)

Paul Hodson, Referatsleiter der Abteilung für Energieeffizienz des General-Direktorats für Energie der EU-Kommission antwortet auf die Fragen von Melita Tuschinski, Dipl.-Ing.UT, Freie Architektin, Redaktion EnEV-online.de

Einleitung

Unter dem Motto „Saubere Energie für alle Europäer“ hat die EU-Kommission Ende November 2016 ein Paket von künftigen Maßnahmen vorgestellt. Ihre Ziele lauten: die Energieeffizienz als oberste Priorität zu behandeln, die weltweite Führung im Bereich der erneuerbaren Energien zu übernehmen und den Verbrauchern ein faires Angebot bereitzustellen. Dabei wurden auch Änderungen an der Richtlinie über die Gesamtenergieeffizienz von Gebäuden (bekannt unter dem englischen Kürzel „EPBD“) vorgeschlagen. Wir haben nachgefragt, wie der aktuelle Stand ist und in wann die Novelle verkündet wird. Die Antworten sind in Englisch verfasst. Eine sinngemäße Zusammenfassung finden Sie in EnEV-online im Bericht → „Novelle der EU-Richtlinie auf dem Weg“.

Umsetzung der EU-Richtlinie 2010

EU-Vorgaben in den Mitgliedsländern

Mr. Hodson, you are the Head of Unit for Energy Efficiency in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy. Have all EU member states implemented (transposed) the requirements of EPBD 2010 In good time? (Haben alle EU-Länder die Gebäuderichtlinie fristgerecht umgesetzt?)

- All 28 Member States experienced difficulties in transposing the Directive on time. This is why the Commission initiated 28 non-transposition infringement procedures in the course of 2012 and 2013. Member States responded to this, and we are now in the situation where the Directive is fully transposed in all Member States.
- The majority of the Member States have completed national transposition of the EPBD in full conformity with its provisions.
- However, there are still a number of ongoing procedures to examine whether the national laws fully implement the EU Directive - for example on enforcement mechanisms for energy performance certificates and clear levels of nearly zero energy requirements.
- But the Commission remains confident that full compliance can be reached in all Member States in the near future.



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Entwurf zur Fortschreibung der EU-Richtlinie

Reaktionen zum Novellen-Vorschlag

How have Member States responded to the proposed update of the Directive - in terms of their experience and suggestions? (Wie haben die Länder auf den Entwurf reagiert angesichts ihrer Erfahrungen und Vorschläge?)

The first point to make here is that the Commission carried out a wide-scale consultation before tabling formal proposals to update the EPBD. This allowed input and observations from national and regional governments, and national or regional parliaments, stakeholders, think tanks, and others, which was taken into account while the Commission was drafting the proposals.

These were also taken into account in the Commission's Impact Assessment which accompanied the proposals when they were published in Nov. 2016.

Fortschreibung der EU-Gebäuderichtlinie

Aktueller Stand und weitere Schritte

What can you say about the ongoing work on updating the EPBD, as proposed in November 2016? Which European bodies have already approved the proposal and which still have to agree? (Was können Sie berichten über die laufende Arbeit zur Fortschreibung des Entwurfes vom November 2016 für die EU-Gebäuderichtlinie? Welche europäischen Gremien haben bereits zugestimmt und welche müssen noch zustimmen?)

Under the relevant EU decision-making procedure, the proposal has passed to both co-legislators - the Council and the European Parliament. Both of these institutions are now preparing their respective positions in response to the Commission proposal.

In the Council, we are optimistic that EU Energy Ministers will be able to agree their position at the June 26 meeting in Luxembourg.

For the European Parliament, the rapporteur - a Danish MEP called Bendt

Bendtsen - has put forward his draft report, and intends to reach agreement among MEPs in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) before the end of the year.

Once both positions have been set, we then move to a series of "trilogues", where the Commission, Council and European Parliament try to iron out our differences and reach a "political agreement". This compromise would then have to pass the European Parliament's plenary and the Council of Energy Ministers of Member States.

One other very important point here is that the EPBD is just one of the proposals in a package of 8 proposals - including → energy efficiency, renewables, governance, and electricity market design. Given the inter-linkages between the different proposals - notably between the EPBD and the Energy Efficiency Directive - it is quite unlikely that the different proposals will be agreed individually. This could mean that the "political agreement" on the EPBD will only be finalised when all elements of the package are agreed.

Zeitraumen bis zur Verkündung



How long will it take until we get a political agreement? What are the next steps up before we get the publication of the new directive in the Official Journal, and the eventual entry into force? (Wie lange wird es noch dauern, bevor wir eine politische Vereinbarung haben? Welches sind die nächsten Schritte bis zur Verkündung der neuen EPBD im Amtsblatt der EU?)

The precise timing will of course depend on the work of the Council and the European Parliament, and then the progress in the trilogues, so I would be hesitant to talk of a precise time-frame.

However, at the end of last year, the President of the European Parliament (Martin Schulz) and the President of the Council (Donald Tusk) agreed with our President (Jean-Claude Juncker) that this package " will be given priority treatment in the legislative process to ensure substantial progress and, where possible, their delivery before the end of 2017"..

Once we get political agreement on the whole package, we will still need to finalise all the legal texts in all EU languages. (The negotiations tend to take place only in English.) Past experience suggests that this will take a number of months. This will then require formal adoption by the European Parliament and the Council - and the subsequent publication of all the new rules in the Official Journal (OJ) [Amtsblatt] will follow.

Under the Commission proposal for the EPBD, the new Directive will enter into force 20 days after its publication in the OJ, and Member States will then have 12 months to make the necessary adjustments in their own national legislation.

Weitere wichtige Aspekte

Wichtige Themen

What other aspects are particularly important in this context?

(Welche weiteren Aspekte sind in diesem Kontext besonders wichtig?)

As I mentioned before, the EPBD is just one element of the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package. And we expect this to be agreed as a whole, thereby locking in the EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement in terms of meeting our 2030 targets for reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions, increasing our use of renewables, and improving energy efficiency.



Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission.
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But this package forms a part of an even bigger picture, which we call the Energy Union. When President Juncker took office in November 2014, he highlighted the Energy Union as a priority area for EU action, stating:

"A European energy union will ensure that Europe has secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy. Wiser energy use while fighting climate change is both a spur for new jobs and growth and an investment in Europe's future."

In this context, there remain a number of other legislative proposals on the table - for example on rules for low carbon mobility, or a forthcoming proposal on lowering vehicle emissions.

So, as you can see, this EPBD is part of a concerted effort to improve our climate performance across the whole of the EU. But, given that buildings account for roughly 40 percent of our energy consumption and 36 percent of our CO₂ emissions, it is a particularly important element in this whole process.



Miguel Arias Cañete, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy.
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As Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete said this week in his opening speech to the EU Sustainable Energy Week:

"Significantly accelerating the rate of building renovation has the potential to help more families move out of energy poverty, and to improve the quality of life for many - as well as stimulate jobs in particular for local SMEs."

Mr. Hodson, thank you for your comprehensive and detailed answers.



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Rückfragen

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